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Governor Dugaard Appoints Cheryle Gering as Circuit Judge

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Dugaard has appointed Cheryle Gering of Freeman as a circuit judge to fill a vacancy created by the coming retirement of 1st Judicial Circuit Judge Arthur Rusch.

“I am pleased that Cheryle has agreed to become a circuit judge,” the Governor said. “Her many years of legal experience, as well as her diligence, common sense and even temperament, will serve the citizens well in southeastern South Dakota.”

Gering received an undergraduate degree in political science and criminal justice studies in 1988 from the University of South Dakota. She received her law degree from the University of Iowa in 1991, graduating in 6th place, with high distinction, from a class of 215. Gering has been in private practice since 1991 in the Sioux Falls law firm of Davenport, Evans, Hurwitz & Smith. She has handled litigation in both the state and federal court systems.

“I am grateful that the Governor chose to appoint me to the circuit court,” Gering said. “I’m sure many qualified and deserving candidates applied for the position. I’ll do my best to serve the people of the state of South Dakota.”

The 1st Judicial Circuit includes Aurora, Bon Home, Brule, Buffalo, Charles Mix, Clay, Davison, Douglas, Hanson, Hutchinson, McCook, Turner, Union and Yankton counties.

Rusch, who is the presiding judge in the 1st Circuit, has been on the bench since 1994. He will retire on June 8.